

Summary of Constituent Questions and Concerns

*As Compiled by the Office of Assemblymember John Laird and
Presented to the California Department of Food and Agriculture*

About Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM)

- How is the LBAM spreading?
- How many agricultural products could be impacted by LBAM?

CheckMate

- What are CheckMate's inert/microencapsulation ingredients, their classification and toxicity?
- Have Checkmate and the inert/ microencapsulation ingredients been used in aerial spraying before?
- What is the concentration of Checkmate that will be used?
- Why is the labeling information inadequate and difficult to understand?

Organic Farming

(According to California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF), while the pheromones are naturally occurring, the inert ingredients in the spray are currently not allowed in organic production. CCOF and the CDFA are awaiting word from the National Organic Program (NOP) to determine whether it will be allowed in organic production.)

- What measures should growers take to protect their crops if NOP determines the spraying will impact their organic status?
- Will CDFA notify organic growers in or near the eradication zone and if so, how?
- If NOP determines crops that are sprayed cannot be sold as organic, will CDFA and USDA reconsider spraying and/or where they spray?
- Will CDFA and/or USDA compensate growers for lost profits if crops are contaminated and consequently can only be sold as conventional produce?

Human and Environmental Impacts

- What are the impacts to children playing outside?
- What are the impacts on flora, fauna, insects and bodies of water?
- How will the spraying affect people with respiratory or other health problems?
- How should doctors treat patients that react to the spraying?
- How will pets be affected?

Process-related

- Why is the eradication process being done on an emergency basis (and therefore exempt from CEQA)?
- Is the spraying a violation of the Coastal Act?
- Why is the spraying happening in the Monterey area first when the worst infestation is in Santa Cruz County?

- Why have people been told to stay indoors, to clean their outdoor furniture, clothes, etc.?
- Why have people not been told to cover their cars during spraying to protect the finish?
- Why is the spraying occurring at night?
- How many times will the spraying take place?
- If citizens go out and water their gardens, will they reduce the intensity of the pheromone?
- Why are twist ties being used in Napa and Contra Costa Counties?
- Why is Pebble Beach excluded in the eradication zone?
- Why does the law allow proprietary chemicals be sprayed on people?
- How will the people who do not attend the public forum be informed?

Twist Tie Alternative

- Why is the spraying the preferred option when there is a less invasive alternative (i.e. twist tie dispensers)?
- How many twist ties would it take have the same impact as aerial spraying?
- How many volunteers would it take to put up the twist tie dispensers as an alternative to spraying?